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Approved For Release 2006/09/26 : CIA-RDP89B00980R000600060043-6

DD/ST# 1859-63

28 October 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Science & Technology)

SUBJECT: Requirements for High-Altitude Coverage of Cuba

1. In pursuance of your request, the following information is provided: On 11 September the United States Intelligence Board approved the COMOR recommendation for a revision of the statement of requirements for high-altitude photographic coverage of Cuba. Those recommendations were approved by the President on 23 September. The new approved statement of the requirements is as follows:

Our requirements for high-level reconnaissance to provide information bearing upon the problems we face in Cuba can be met under the following formula:

- a. Coverage of the entire territory of Cuba every 14 days, insuring coverage of the highest priority targets (numbering about 30).
- b. Areas and objectives which have not been adequately covered during the specified time period will be defined by COMOR and will take precedence in operational planning for the next time period.
- c. Specific coverage of critical targets when photography or collateral warrant.
- d. The coverage of the whole territory should be accomplished at such time as to maximize chances for achievement with the fewest number of missions.

2. The background for this new statement is set forth in a copy of the COMOR paper which was approved by the Board (USIB-D-41.14/66; COMOR-D-24/83) which is attached for your reference.

3. COMOR reports to the Board every two weeks on the status of the results of the reconnaissance. For your reference the last such report is attached (USIB-D-41.14/79; COMOR-D-24/93).

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4. Also of interest perhaps will be the recent coverage with the 112A camera, there having now been up to this point three missions, all in response to the COMOR's requirements. We expect to conclude this week on whether any additional missions are necessary with the 112A camera.

5. Also of possible interest is the fact that we are now awaiting the results of reconnaissance [redacted] As you know, this takes more time for processing and therefore our readout and appraisal of the value of this will take some time, the amount being uncertain at this moment.

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6. Finally, you will recall that we recommended low-level coverage on several occasions within recent months. This has not been done for reasons with which you are more familiar than I. Most recently is the recommendation to use low-level oblique photography to meet special DDP needs on beaches. The Director wished to hold this until we had seen the results of the 112A. In the memorandum given you this morning [redacted] I indicated COMOR's conclusion that these needs could not be met with the 112A although a more detailed study is under preparation by NPIC for the DDP.

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cc: DDS&T
SA/DDS&T
EO/AD/OSA

Attachments:

1. COMOR-D-24/83
2. COMOR-D-24/93

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USIB-D-41.14/79
(COMOR-D-24/93)
15 October 1963
Limited Distribution

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : High-Level Coverage of Cuba

REFERENCE : USIB-D-41.14/53, 2 July 1963, Limited Distribution

The attached biweekly COMOR report on high-level coverage of Cuba, prepared in response to paragraph 1.c. of the reference, is circulated for review by USIB at its 16 October meeting.



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Attachment

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Report on High-Level Coverage of Cuba

1. COMOR reports that in accordance with paragraph 1c of USIB-D-41.14/53 a review has been made of the coverage of Cuba for the 2 weeks ending 9 October. The reporting periods, based on the BRASS KNOB reports of the COMOR Working Group, are 26 September - 2 October (CWG-BK-45) and 3 - 9 October (CWG-BK-46). *AF not CIA*

During this period 12 BRASS KNOB missions were flown. Those scheduled for 6, 7, and 8 October were cancelled because of Hurricane Flora.

Area coverage in photography with 25 percent or less cloud cover amounted to 55 percent in the first week and 39 percent in the second week.

"Island coverage as feasible." Of about 195 COMOR targets, only 4 were not covered in the first week; 47 were not covered in the second.

"Coverage of highest priority targets." During the first week, all of the 27 were covered; during the second, 8 were not covered.

2. Following Hurricane Flora, 5 missions were flown on 10 - 11 October. By 13 October, all of the Highest Priority targets had been photographed during the 5 days after the hurricane. Based on the latest data available, 83 percent of the land area of Cuba was covered during the 14-day period 30 September to 13 October.

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